

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - US-ITALY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) ROME 0588; (B) 1977 ROME 21146

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO SUBMIT NOTE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES
TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

BEGIN TEXT:

A. THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS
ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAS
THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE MINISTRY'S NOTE NO. 079/22076
DATED DECEMBER 23, 1977.

B. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REGRETS THE POSITION TAKEN
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BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN THE REFERENCED NOTE. IT CON-
TINUES TO BE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT THE
INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF SCHEDULED AND NON-SCH-DULED SERVICES
IS SUCH THAT SIMULTANEOUS CONSIDERATION OF BOTH SUBJECTS IN
THE SAME FORUM IS NECESSARY TO REACH OVERALL AGREEMENT ON
US-ITALY AIR TRANSPORT RELATIONS. THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT REQUESTS THAT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT RECONSIDER

ITS POSITION ON THE INCLUSION OF CHARTERS IN THE DISCUSSIONS

CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 23, 1978 IN WASHINGTON.

C. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT, UNLESS CHARTERS CAN BE DISCUSSED SUBSTANTIVELY IN RELATION TO SCHEDULED SERVICE, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE PROGRESS ON REVISION OF THE AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT. IF THE ITALIAN SIDE IS NOT ABLE TO DISCUSS CHARTERS SUBSTANTIVELY IN THE UPCOMING ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 23, THE UNITED STATES SIDE IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS ONLY THE FOLLOWING AGENDA: (1) RESPECTIVE VIEWS REGARDING INCLUSION OF CHARTERS IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS; (2) STATUS OF REVISIONS TO AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT PROPOSED BY EITHER SIDE; (3) AIR FARES; (4) EX POST FACTO REVIEW OF LAST SUMMER'S CAPACITY; (5) CLARIFICATION OF ITALIAN CHARTER REGULATIONS FOR 1978; (6) ITALIAN RESTRICTIONS ON ALL-CARGO FLIGHTS; AND (7) ITALIAN AIRPORT PRACTICES (GROUND HANDLING AND USE OF CIAMPINO AIRPORT).

2. EMBASSY SHOULD REITERATE TO GOI ORALLY THAT ALTHOUGH USG IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS STATUS OF SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO ITALY AT NEXT ROUND OF TALKS, SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON THESE SUBJECTS WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE BECAUSE USG FIRMLY BELIEVES REVISION OF AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT CANNOT BE APPROACHED SUCCESSFULLY WITHOUT SYSTEMATIC CONSIDERATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF TOTAL MARKET INCLUDING NONSCHEDULED SERVICES. EMBASSY MAY ALSO ADVISE GOI THAT DRAFT BILATERAL CHARTER AGREEMENT IS UNDER PREPARATION AND HOPEFULLY WILL BE PROVIDED ITALIAN DEL THROUGH EMBASSY NEXT WEEK. CHRISTOPHER

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